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Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1. (previously presented) A method comprising:
generating a first signal defining 1) a location in a memory, and 2) a length in the memory of a second signal, the first signal having a cross-platform encoding, wherein the second signal comprises configuration settings for a computing system; and
storing the first signal such that it may be accessed by an application program and wherein the second signal is applied to the computing system upon at least one of power-on and reset, wherein the second signal is applied by existing boot operation instructions.

Claim 2. (original) The method of claim 1 in which defining the location in the memory comprises defining an offset in the memory.

Claim 3. (original) The method of claim 1 in which defining the location in the memory comprises defining an address in the memory.

Claim 4. (original) The method of claim 1 in which the cross-platform encoding comprises:

NAME and VALUE fields in an HTML form.

Claim 5. (original) The method of claim 1 in which the memory is CMOS and the first signal is stored in RAM.

Claim 6. (canceled)

Claim 7. (original) The method of claim 1 in which the application program executes in cooperation with an operating system.

Claims 8-13. (canceled)

09/733,382
Atty. Docket: 42P6770

Claim 14. (previously presented) An article comprising:
a machine-readable memory having stored therein instructions which, when executed by a processor in a computer system, result in:
generating a first signal defining 1) a location in a memory, and 2) a length in the memory of a second signal, the first signal having a cross-platform encoding, wherein the second signal comprises system configuration settings; and
storing the first signal such that it may be accessed by an application program and wherein the second signal is applied to the computing system upon at least one of power-on and reset, wherein the second signal is applied by existing boot operation instructions.

Claim 15. (original) The article of claim 14 in which the cross-platform encoding further comprises:

NAME and VALUE fields in an HTML form.

Claim 16. (original) The article of claim 14 in which the memory is CMOS and the first signal is stored in RAM.

Claims 17-21. (canceled)

Claim 22. (previously presented) A computer system comprising:
a processor;
a machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by the processor, result in:
generating a first signal defining 1) a location in a memory, and 2) a length in the memory of a second signal, the first signal having a cross-platform encoding, wherein the second signal comprises system configuration settings; and
storing the first signal such that the first signal may be accessed by an application program and wherein the second signal is applied to the computing system upon at least one of power-on and reset, wherein the second signal is applied by existing boot operation instructions.

09/733,382
Atty Docket: 42P6770

Claim 23. (original) The system of claim 22 in which the cross-platform encoding comprises:

NAME and VALUE fields in an HTML form.

Claim 24. (original) The system of claim 22 in which the first memory is CMOS and the first signal is stored in RAM.